

For Immediate Release  
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Contacts: 645-3111

## **Mayor Coleman, Councilmember Paley, Hilltop Residents Break Ground on New Hague Avenue Sidewalks**

Mayor Michael B. Coleman, Councilmember Eileen Y. Paley and Hilltop residents today broke ground on the construction of new sidewalks on both sides of South Hague Avenue between West Mound Street and Briggs Road. The segment of South Hague Avenue currently has no sidewalks, except one-tenth of a mile of sidewalk on west side of the street extending north from the intersection of Hague Avenue and Briggs Road.

**“These new sidewalks will allow families to walk more safely along Hague Avenue,” said Mayor Coleman. “We continue to invest in sidewalks across Columbus to increase pedestrian safety near schools and on arterial streets with heavy traffic.”**

The 0.64 mile of new sidewalks will complete a connection between existing sidewalks on South Hague Avenue north of West Mound Street and sidewalks installed on Briggs Road in 2007. The Briggs Road sidewalks provide safer paths to two schools: Binns Elementary School at the northeast corner of Briggs Road and Binns Boulevard; and Briggs High School 2555 Briggs Road. The South Hague Avenue sidewalks are part of \$4 million in capital improvement funds the City is investing in pedestrian safety projects, including 9.2 miles of sidewalks.

**“Sidewalks are essential for building safe, healthy neighborhoods,” said Paley, chair of the Public Service and Transportation Committee. “The city is continuing an aggressive campaign to improve transportation options all around Columbus.”**

The South Hague Avenue sidewalks are scheduled to be completed by mid-September, weather permitting. Other sidewalks to be built by the city in 2011 include:

- Cole Street, between Kelton Avenue and Berkeley Road (completed)
- Cole Street, between Seymour Avenue and Fairwood Avenue (completed)
- Deshler Avenue, between Fairwood Avenue and Lockbourne Road (currently under construction)
- Kenny Road, between Bricker Boulevard and Ackerman Road
- King Avenue, between city limits east of Andover Road and Westwood Avenue
- Lane Avenue, between Kenny Road and Fyffe Drive (currently under construction)
- Livingston Avenue, between Woodcrest and Lonsdale
- Mooberry Street, between Kelton Avenue and Berkeley Road (completed)
- Mt. Vernon Avenue, between 5<sup>th</sup> Street and 6<sup>th</sup> Street
- Nelson Road, between Greenway South and railroad overpass
- Northwest Boulevard, between West 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue and King Avenue
- Obetz Road, between South High Street and Beth Ann Drive (currently under construction)
- Obetz Road, between Beth Ann Drive and Parsons Avenue
- Refugee Road, between Hamilton Road and Big Walnut Creek
- Valleyview Road, between Wilson Road and Westmoor Middle School
- East Weber Road, between I-71 and Cleveland Avenue
- West Mound Street, between Brinker Avenue and Binns Boulevard
- Wilson Road, between Fisher Road and Interchange Road

- Worthington Woods Boulevard, between Sancus Boulevard and Alta View Road

**“Building sidewalks in neighborhoods is vital to the safety of pedestrians including children who walk to and from school every day, those who have no other form of transportation, and disabled or elderly residents who need to get to and from their appointments,” said Ogden Avenue Block Watch and Hilltop neighborhood leader Lisa Boggs. “We appreciate and thank the City of Columbus for investing tax dollars wisely by installing sidewalks in our neighborhood and look forward to continued improvement of the area.”**

Columbus has constructed 67.58 miles of sidewalks since 2000.

The city considers several factors when identifying locations where sidewalks will be constructed, including:

- Is there a school on, or adjacent to, the street
- Is there a recreation center or park on, or adjacent to, the street?
- Are there COTA bus stops on the street?
- Is there a concentration of senior citizen housing on the street?
- Is the street an arterial street, which has larger traffic volumes than residential street?

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